

Of the distinctness of this species, which Dr. Jerdon was the first to suspect, having picked out a peculiarly small specimen in Mr. Brooks's collection as not, in his opinion, referable to *P. rama*, there can be no doubt. Mr. Brooks and I have worked the matter out with more than sixty specimens of the new species and a large series of *P. rama* before us; and that gentleman (who himself procured all these specimens, some of which we have had in the flesh before us while writing the above descriptions) has personally observed its habits and haunts. In general appearance, at one season of the year, as has been said, it much resembles *P. rama*; but in its habits, notes, and even change of tone of colour at different seasons it far more closely approximates to *Acrocephalus*. It forms, indeed, in our opinion, a sufficiently well marked intermediate type demanding the generic separation we have accorded to it.

XIII.—*On some other new and little-known Birds, collected during the Voyage round the World in 1865–68 of H. I. M.'s S. Magenta.* By HENRY HILLYER GIGLIOLI, Sc.D., C.M.Z.S., and THOMAS SALVADORI, M.D., C.M.Z.S.*

1. ACRIDOTHERES LEUCOCEPHALUS.

A. capite collo ac uropygio albis, dorso nigro-schistaceo, alis brunneis, subtus albo-rubescens.

Head and neck white, the feathers on the top of the head rather lengthened and pointed, a large naked space of a dark reddish colour around the eyes; back of a dark slate-black, rump and upper tail-coverts (except the posterior ones, which are black) of a pure white; wings of a silky brown as in *A. tristis*, the spurious wing, carpal region, under wing-coverts and the basal portion of the primaries white; a partial collar bordering the base of the posterior part of the neck, the breast and abdomen reddish-white, nearly rosy, tinged on the sides with greyish, the mesial abdominal region being of

* Other new species of birds collected during the same voyage were described by the same authors in 'The Ibis' for 1869, pp. 61–68, and in the 'Atti della Società Italiana di Scienze Naturali,' vol. xi. pt. iii. (1868).

a nearly pure white, which extends over the under tail-coverts; thighs white on the inner side, and of a slate-grey externally: tail black, tipped with white, which on the outer rectrices extends over nearly one-third of the entire length of the feather, diminishing gradually on the others up to the two middle ones, on which it forms merely a slight border. Bill and legs yellow, the former reddish-orange at the base; iris brown.

Total length 0^m·220; wing 0^m·130; tail 0^m·075; bill from forehead 0^m·023.

Hab. Thu-Duc, French Cochín-China.

This species is a true *Acridotheres*, and belongs to the group characterized by the naked periophthalmic space, as *A. ginginianus*, *A. tristis* and *A. melanopterus*. It is so distinctly defined as not to be easily confounded with any of the other known species, although in some respects it resembles both *A. tristis* and *A. melanopterus*. The only specimen forming part of the 'Magenta' collections was shot near Thu-Duc, a few miles above Saigon, on the 7th of June, 1866. It is now in the Zoological Museum of Turin.

2. LEPTOPTILA CHLORAUCHËNIA.

L. Leptoptilæ rufaxillæ valde affinis, sed major, rostro longiore, occipite ac cervice magis viridescens.

Upper parts of an olive-brown, showing green metallic reflections under certain lights; forehead and throat whitish; back of head and neck grey, glossed with green and purplish reflections; underparts of a vinous white, darker on the chest; abdomen and under tail-coverts pure white; remiges and rectrices dark grey, the latter, except the four middle ones, tipped with white; under wing-coverts and inner webs of the primaries rich cinnamon-brown; bill black, tarsi and feet reddish, iris orange-red.

Total length 0^m·310; wing 0^m·160; tail 0^m·110; tarsi 0^m·029; bill from forehead 0^m·020.

Hab. Uruguay.

"Not so common as *Zenaida maculata* in the neighbourhood of Montevideo, but conspicuous, when flying, on account of the reddish colour on the under surface of the wings. I shot two specimens in the garden of the *estancia* 'Trinidad' in January

1866, one of which only was preserved and is now in the Turin collection" (H. H. G.).

Although this species is very nearly allied to *L. rufaxilla*, yet it appears to us sufficiently distinct to be considered specifically so. Most probably this is the species called by Azara "*Paloma parda tapadas roxas*" (Parag. n. 320). Quid *Peristera* (*Leptoptila*) *macroactyla*, Gray, *List Columbæ*, p. 54 (deser. nulla!) ?

During the stay at Peking of part of the 'Magenta's' staff, for the conclusion of the treaty between Italy and China, in October 1866, Professor De Filippi was presented by Father Armand David, the missionary naturalist who has done so much towards bettering our knowledge of the Mongolian and Manchurian fauna and flora, and by M. Fontanier, one of the secretaries attached to the French legation, with several ornithological rarities; amongst others the Professor received two birds of particular interest, which both he and one of the authors (H. H. G.) at once perceived to be new. Mr. Swinhoe, who was communicated with on the subject, could not identify either; some time afterwards, however, he also succeeded in getting specimens of both from Peking, and described them (*Ibis*, 1868, pp. 60-62),—one as the type and only known species of a new genus, *Pterorhinus davidi*; the other as *Drymæca* (?) *pekinensis*. M. Jules Verreaux subsequently proposed that the latter (which is no *Drymæca*) should be placed in the Australian genus *Amytis*; but we believe it to form the type of a new genus, which ought to be placed next or near to *Laniellus*, Swainson, as the so-called *Drymæca pekinensis* resembles *L. leucogrammicus*, Temm. (Pl. Col. 592), not only in shape, but also in colour. Thus we propose for it the generic appellation:—

RHOPOPHILUS.*

The only known species of this new genus is:—

RHOPOPHILUS PEKINENSIS;

Drymæca ? *pekinensis*, Swinhoe, *Ibis*, 1868, p. 62.

Amytis pekinensis, J. Verreaux, *ibid.* p. 499.

* From ῥῶψ, a thicket, and φίλος, loving.